

The
LEAD-
STCKER

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A DISCOVERY

The latest addition to my table top press collection was discovered in an antique book store in Phoenix. With a couple of hours to kill, I walked into the store hoping to find maybe a type specimen book or a printing text book. But sitting on the floor was a Golding Official No. 4.

Without even thinking of dickering over the price, I bought it. It's in need of rollers, the gripper bar assembly needs to be welded back together, and the ratchet pawl that moves the ink plate is missing. The rollers (thanks to my readers) and welding job are no problem, but the ratchet pawl could be, if I can't find a competent machinist. I haven't had much luck with the machinists around here, one couldn't follow directions, one billed me twice the quoted price, and the rest don't want to fool with jobs under \$100. Is there a machinist among my readers? 

CRAZY?

My latest type sorting project? How about 400 pounds of pied type! I'm picking out eighteen point and larger. Some of the faces I'm finding are: Broadway, Spire, Packard, Gallia, Virkotype and Newport initials. This batch could take a bit longer than the couple of years it took me to sort the two five-gallon buckets I just finished. 



INK HELP NEEDED

One of the biggest problems I have encountered with letterpress printing is finding a decent ink. Rubber base seems to be much too thin and very slow drying (some say never drying). I've had better results with oil base litho ink but the local supplier doesn't like to deal with a printer who buys only a couple of pounds of ink per year. I bought some alleged letterpress ink from American Printing Equipment. One pound (red) by Superior Ink Company had the consistency of corn syrup on a hot day, the other (green) Handschy was not much better. I would like to find a good stiff ink, something with a little body, I believe the "old guys" used to call it "short" ink. Can anyone help me out by recommending an ink supplier? ~~~

ANY TAKERS?

I know that many ajays operate on a tight budget and even tighter shop space. I would like to do something that would encourage our occasional publishers to contribute more often or allow others to enhance the look of their publications. The thought of a cut library occurred to me. Is anyone interested in renting cuts at, say \$1 each plus postage both ways, for thirty days? If you're interested, drop me a card and if the response is large enough, I could probably have things set up by the next bundle. ~~~



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